

This trail guide covers walking trails in Centennial Reservation, MassBay Community College, and Maugus Hill. Combined they provide 87 acres of open space with rolling meadows and woodlands on the slopes and summit of Maugus Hill, the second highest point in Wellesley.

Centennial Reservation is conservation land purchased by the town in 1980 from the Sisters of Charity to commemorate Wellesley's centennial anniversary. MassBay is a two-year state college, and their open space land is west of Oakland St.

There is a total of 3.3 miles of woodland trails, and the main trail is the Centennial Reservation Trail.

Location

Located in Wellesley Hills, these open space lands are just south of the intersection of Rt. 9 and Rt. 16. From the light at Rt. 9 and Oakland St, follow Oakland St. south for 0.5 miles. Turn right at the sign for Centennial Reservation and follow a partially paved road to the parking lot.

Centennial Reservation Trail

Distance: 1.6 miles, roundtrip

Elevation gain: 200 feet

Marking: Purple arrows

Difficulty: Moderate

Time: 1 hour

Start this trail at the Centennial Reservation parking lot off Oakland St. At the map house, take the trail across the meadow. Turn left at the first trail post, which marks the beginning of the loop trail. Follow the trail across the meadow and enter the woods by the golf course. Continue across another meadow with bluebird boxes, and enter the woods. Cross over a footbridge, and start your ascent up Maugus Hill.

Follow the trail uphill through the meadow, and enter the woods at the corner of the meadow. Just before you pass a trail on your right, you have entered MassBay property. Ascend through a pine grove, note a short trail to the left that goes to Maugus Ave, and continue to the top of Maugus Hill

(335 ft). In the winter when the leaves are down, you can see the Boston skyline.

The trail turns right just before the top of the hill and descends toward Wareland Rd. and the MassBay Community College parking lot. Before reaching the parking lot, the trail turns right, and ascends gradually to the top of the upper meadow. From the meadow, there is a view of the Town of Needham and the Great Blue Hill (635 ft.) in Canton, the highest natural point in metropolitan Boston. Leave your thoughts in the journal on the bench, then continue downhill, and reenter Centennial Reservation.

Go downhill through the lower meadow and past Benzanson Pond to the beginning of the loop. Follow the trail back to the parking lot.

Trail Use Guidelines

- All motorized use prohibited.
- No littering or dumping.
- No fires.
- No camping.
- No alcoholic beverages.
- Fields are full of poison ivy, so stay on mowed trails.
- Do not feed, approach or touch wildlife, including waterfowl.
- Take personal protection measures to reduce your exposure to ticks and mosquito bites.
- Abide by town's restriction of no more than 2 dogs per person or 3 dogs with a permit.
- Please pick up after your dog and properly dispose of the waste. Thanks!

Contact Information

For additional information on Wellesley's trails and to report trail problems, please go to our web site, call us, send email, or visit us at the NRC office.

- Web Site: www.wellesleytrails.org
- Phone: 781-431-1019, extension 2294
- Email: nrc@wellesleyma.gov
- Address: Town Hall, 525 Washington Street, Wellesley, MA 02482



Trail Guide & Map



Centennial Reservation MassBay Community College Maugus Hill

Wellesley Natural Resources Commission

Wellesley Trails Committee
www.wellesleytrails.org